

What is Claimed is:

1. A mat fastener for connection to a floor mat of an automobile comprising:

5           a. a male grommet made of a resin material;

10           b. a female grommet made of a resin material;

15           c. the female grommet having an outer tube portion having opposite open ends and adapted to be inserted into a hole formed in the floor mat;

20           d. the female grommet having a flange formed at the outer periphery of one of the ends of the outer tube portion and having adapted to be in contact with one of the side surfaces of the mat;

25           e. the male grommet having an inner tube portion having opposite open ends and adapted to be inserted into the outer tube portion of the female grommet and a flange formed at the outer periphery of one of the ends of the inner tube portion;

30           f. the flange of the male grommet adapted to be in contact with the other of the side surfaces of the mat;

          g. each of the outer and inner tube portions is provided with engagement means for coupling the female and male grommets to each other so that, upon engagement thereof, one of the flanges of the grommets is adapted to be brought into contact with one of the side surfaces of the mat around the mat hole and the other flange of the grommets is brought into contact with the other side surface of the mat, whereby the mat fastener to the mat with sandwiching the mat between the flanges;

h. one of the flanges of the male and female grommets has a larger outside dimension than that of the other thereof; and

5 i. each of the flanges has an outer peripheral portion formed in a curve shape to be directed toward the mate to allow each of the flanges to bite into the mat in the state when the male and female grommets are coupled to each other by the engagement means.

10 2. The combination claimed in Claim 1 wherein:

15 a. the flange of the female grommet is formed in a circular plate of a predetermined diameter;

b. the flange of the male grommet is formed in a circular plate of predetermined diameter smaller than the diameter of the flange of the female grommet;

c. the outer peripheral portion of the male grommet flange is formed in a curved shape to allow the male grommet flange to bite into the mat in the direction of the female grommet flange; and

20 d. the outer peripheral portion of the female grommet flange is formed in a curved shape to allow the female grommet flange to bite into the mat in the direction of the male grommet flange.

25 3. The combination claimed in Claim 2 wherein:

30 a. the floor mat includes an upper carpet layer and a lower rubber base layer;

b. the male grommet is disposed on the side of the carpet layer of the floor mat; and

c. the female grommet is disposed on the side of the base layer of the floor mat.

4. The combination claimed in Claim 3 wherein:

5 a. the outer peripheral portion of the female flange includes a plurality of circumferentially spaced annular protrusions formed thereon to extend in the direction of the base layer.

10 5. The combination claimed in Claim 4 wherein:

15 a. at least one of the female and male grommet flanges includes a pin capable of biting into the mat to prevent relative rotation between the outer and inner tube portions.

6. The combination claimed in Claim 5 wherein:

20 a. each of the female and male grommets is integrally formed thereon of a resin material; and

b. the resin material has a low elastic modulus and is substantially deformable.